

Volume 4 Issue 2 July/August 1994

\$8.00

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ILL

Illusions

ISSUES OF THE TV/TS LIFESTYLE

REFERENCE USE ONLY

TWO BRIDES IN A WEDDING

A CROSSDRESSING FANTASY, SHE MARRIES SHE

BI-SEXUALITY

HE'S A GUY, SHE'S A GUY

TRANSSEXUALS

THE ONES THAT MAKE NEWS

ARE YOU TV/TS

TRY OUR GENDER QUIZ



DON'T MISS OUT!

ILLUSIONS CALENDAR

BE SURE TO CHECK OUT THESE EVENTS!!!!!!

Calgary

July 16 - Stampede B.B.Q.
 July 28 - Summers Here Party
 August - Check With Social Committee
 "Girls of Summer"

September 10 - Welcome Back, Vegas Nite
 September 29 - Passport to Pleasure
 October 15 - Dress for Pleasure II
 October 27 - Fashion Show
 October 29 - Halloween Outing(Not at Club)

Edmonton

August - "Coronation" See Marsha
 September 8 - Regular Meeting
 October 13 - Regular Meeting

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Calgary

July 16 - Mr. Western Canada Drummer @
 Detours Club

Edmonton

August 20 - I.S.C.W.R. Coronation '94
 See Marsha for tickets

Red Deer

August 7 - A.I.D.S. Benefit (\$2.00 Cover)
 @ The Other Place (342-6440)
 September 2 - 4 - Great Alberta Campout
 call GALACA (340-2196)
 September 30 - Alberta Summit '94
 October 1 - 2 - call GALACA (340-2196)

Call "The Other Place" for their FULL
 Calendar of events. Drink specials, Theme
 Nights, Pool Tournaments, and we're
 WELCOME there.

AND NOW.....

A WORD
 FROM OUR
 EDITORS!!!!...



BURN, TAN, BURN!

SUMMER'S here again..and we're back at the beach for August. This is a great chance for us to rest up as its been an incredible Spring! The Ball was festive as always and Illusions was well represented there. We had lots of members come on board through the spring calendar..May being the busiest for people venturing out of closets! Bravo!

Our two weddings and honeymoon in Jamaica kept us really on our toes with planning and happenings. Thanks to all that helped it fly smooth and to lots of fabulous memories that were created.

The Pride Weeks events were fun and I want to see more of you out next year walking in support of your freedoms! The Rodeo was Yahaaaaa Fantastic. Although Mother Nature wasn't really helping, the fun and games out at Symons Valley were worth the price of admission. The best was the American friends that we met.

It seems like the Illusions Yacht is getting bigger and bigger and the future just gets stronger all the time. Three cheers for the Social Committee... they are always scheming up a great evening for all of us. Stand up for who you are...we are...it gets easier everytime you tell someone. Educate as many as you can.... We aren't done till the fat lady sings!

So while we're sitting around the campfire with the "suburbia folks"....telling them who we are...what will you be doing? Have a great summer...hopefully we'll TAN, TAN, TAN!!!!

In SPF 15 and Aloe Vera
 Barbie & Christine

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and what else?

Well there's our Social Committee report, article by Cindy, He/She comic, Welcome Mat, Humour from Melanie, the Illusions Girls Registry, scattered tid-bits, some great pictures and interesting advertisers who'd like you, the TV/TS to visit them. Now this is one great magazine!

Illusions Editors: Barbie, Christine and Lisa

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Your Illusions Social Committee Wants You to Have Fun!

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On May 14, we promised that there would be a Mystery Party, the party was a mystery to our Christine, because we put on a surprise wedding shower for her. She was such a busy girl that week but Barbie convinced her to go home and get dressed for a party, reluctantly she did and when she arrived at the club, we gave her cheer, cake, a song from Ms. Special K and a sexy nightgown for her honeymoon. Thanks to everyone who chipped in for the occasion and thanks to Sonya for her party trays too.

At our swap meet on May 26, many members came with old clothes and left with new ones. And who didn't leave without getting a wig from Sonya. In addition that night, we had Paul from Imagine You, offer his video/computer imaging of members possible hairstyles. Paul was busy most of the night giving us the examples of what we look like with long or bobbed, curly or straight hair designs. We hope to have him back in the future.

We regret that the TV Talk show did not fly, but on June 30th we still had a great night of socializing.

Our Stampede BBQ will be a lot of fun, this time we see how many Illusions girls can cook.

And what of the future? We say goodbye for the summer on July 28th, but don't despair our Girls of Summer II party is scheduled for August 27 at the Boxxe restaurant. A discreet location with a private meeting area and large bathrooms. You will be treated to a meal and the best in TV entertainment. We hope to make it as good a success as last year's. If you would like a ticket, please see one of us on the Social Committee: Lisa, Diane, Terri, Colleen, Freddelle or Karen. A special reserve-a-ticket line has been set up, call 267-9378. We want to raise money for a club lighting system, and more library books so we hope to see you at the party.

Test your compassion and your courage

Article from Calgary Sun

**JACK
TENNANT**



Conservative estimates predict at least 60 Calgarians will die from this disease this year.

That's more than one a week.

The disease is AIDS.

If 60 straight, white Calgarians were dying of a disease every year, there'd be an enormous hue and cry.

But this is AIDS and straight, white Calgarians suffer the illusion AIDS is a gay disease; that AIDS is a risk for injection drug users.

That AIDS is not a problem to heterosexuals or non-needle users.

Not only are those attitudes false, but continuing that ignorance will do nothing but cost more lives.

Like it or not, AIDS is our problem. If you think AIDS is the sole domain of gays, then think of this — in 1992 more than 5,000 young Alberta females between 10 and 24 had some type of sexually transmitted disease.

Is your daughter one? And if she was, could you handle it with love and understanding?

As uncomfortable as some lifestyles may make us, if we continue to keep our heads in the sand we'll do little more than allow the death rate to increase.

The phrase for gays the past few years has been for them to come out of the closet and now it's our turn.

Perhaps now, folks in the mid-life generations must look past lifestyles to see the suffering.

Perhaps now, straight folks must overcome their discomfort and traditional opinions and get involved.

It takes courage for a straight person to contact AIDS Calgary and offer their volunteer services, yet more and more Calgarians are doing it.

It takes courage for older folks to overcome their discomfort and see people for what they are and not for how they live, but a growing number of Calgarians are doing just that.

It's sad, but almost every AIDS case takes a life, yet all cases are preventable.

And don't get moral on me that AIDS is God's retribution for gay lifestyles or using injection drugs.

The words against homosexuality are in the Bible, of course, but there's also a few thou "shalls" and "shall nots" there and you can only preach to me of other Bible quotations if you can prove you've never broken one of the shalls or shall nots.

Something about glass houses and stones.

AIDS Calgary says on average 600 Calgarians a week receive medical care for HIV or AIDS.

Nobody is asking anyone to judge a lifestyle, but at least one Calgarian dies each and every week.

Kind of makes lifestyle unimportant, doesn't it?

Test your faith. Test your compassion. Test your courage. Test yourself.

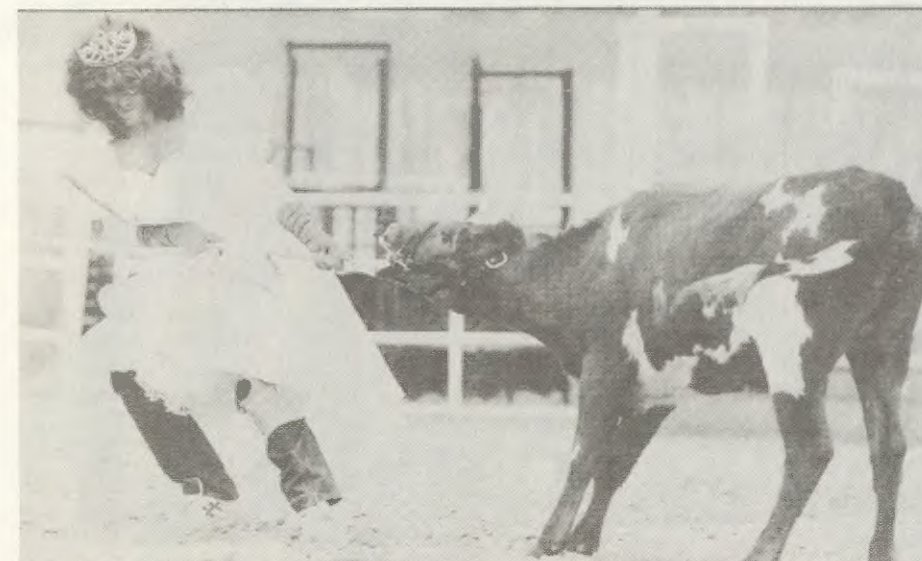
Hug a gay person. Hug a gay person with AIDS.

Then phone AIDS Calgary and offer to help.

TENNANT TIDBIT — Live simply so others may simply live. (Stitched on the back of the jean jacket donated by George Fox to the Calgary Cares charity auction, a fund-raiser for AIDS Calgary).

Life's a real drag!

MISS FIRECRACKER: Tim Haskin competes in gay rodeo event at Symon's Valley BBQ Ranch



The Canadian Rockies International Gay Rodeo held at Symon's Valley Ranch on the Canada Day long weekend drew an estimated crowd of over 1,000 people each day of the event.

The Gay Rodeo was a positive serious fun event that drew Cowboys and Cowgirls from as far away as Texas and California.

This event helped to bring our "Community" together for a celebration of "Western Heritage" and hopefully aided in the breakdown of society's stereotypical views.

See you next year at "The Rodeo".
YAHOO!

Photo from Calgary Sun

Four Years And We Get Prettier Every Year! *Illusions has another birthday bash*

Each spring, we have our club celebration, it's a toast to our achievements in the past year and a start to the next.

New royalty is chosen by members,

here's the contest and fun.

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What Happened!

The evening began with an introduction of the contestants for the Empress pageant. Hoping to take home a crown were: Karen Ursula, Lisa, Diane and Gina. Each girl was required to entertain our packed house of members and friends with a song. Karen showed us that lip-syncing in German can be carried off, Ursula was a country queen (no pun there girl), Lisa was no Beast of Burden, Diane is the successor of Tina Turner for sure and Gina convinced us that walking like a woman is easy. Entertainment did not stop with the contestants though, Michelle (opposite page, top right corner) proved she is

ready for next year's contest for sure. Wanda's act brought the house down, we hope to see more of her stage acts soon.

Funny, maybe embarrassing questions were asked of the contestants. These were not, "How would you change the world?" topics rather, "How would you change your clothes?" ones.

Fun and Charity

From half a year's collection, Illusions donated \$500 to Gay Lines Calgary, to support their phone work. We have had Illusions members who first heard of us through Gay Lines.

Birthday is never complete without cake, as you can see below, Barbie got first dibs on an outside piece.

Drum roll please...

After balloting, our new royalty was announced. 2nd Princess is Ursula, her trip from the east paid off and it was good seeing her again. 1st Princess is Diane, who admits she always wanted to be a princess, she sure is. Our Empress IV is Lisa, she has vowed to be a hard worker for Illusions in the coming year. The competition was tough this year and we're sure it will be even more next year. Thanks to all contestants.

Lisa won the Stephanie Donaldson award for club contribution, but the big contributor to our party was Darryl, (pictured with Barbie and Christine) he decorated the club with lovely streamers and tinsel, it was a great job. Thanks.

And thankyou to all who attended. We'll see you next year on our 5th.



Live music, talent, lip-sync,
cake and presents too...

Illusions is 4

June 11, 1994

The fun begins at 7:30

No. 1

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Tinseltown TV

What's new in the glam world of crossdressing

11 Famous Transsexuals

That you may, or may not have heard of.

You may have seen these people on Donahue or noticed their names emblazoned on tabloid pages, 'Tennis player is not a she but a he. The shocking truth.' Now some of you girls may say these people are nothing but publicity hounds, seeking attention and fame, and I may agree, some have used the freak show status to advance their careers or make money to pay for costly sex reassignment surgery. The great thing they offer us though, is inspiration in a world of indifferent attitudes toward transgenderism.

Every time a lame brain verbally attacks one of these people on world-wide television, there's another person at home who says, "Hey, that person is really brave!", and there's the crossdresser or transsexual who says, "Hey, I'm not the only one!"

This issue, Sarah tips her flowered summer hat to these important people who have made our world a better place to crossdress in.

Wendy Carlos

Born Walter Carlos in 1939, He was famous for co-designing the Moog synthesizer and recording the haunting electronic score for *A Clockwork Orange*. His *Switched on Bach* and *Switched on Bach II*, sold millions of albums. Career success was no match for the personal troubles in Walter's life, he believed he was a woman trapped inside a man's body. Deciding to live his life as a woman, he made his final appearance as Walter on the *Dick Cavett Show* in 1970. Carlos then dropped out from public attention and by 1972 had the sex-change. It wasn't until May, 1979 that Wendy revealed herself to the world a *Playboy* magazine interview. Wendy released

another album of electronic music this past spring. It's great music.

Canary Conn

Danny O'Conner felt that he was a girl from the age of two and dressed in his sister's clothing often, but as teenage year's set in he tried to convince others, and himself that he was a man, playing football, dating girls and trying to join the U.S. Marines. In 1970, the 21 year old who by now was a husband and father decided to undergo the sexual change. Conn started a new life, got a boyfriend and had the final operation in 1971. Canary, as the name suggests became an accomplished singer and lyricist, and worked as a Hollywood reporter and talk-show host.

Paula Grossman

One of the first U.S. Transsexuals to have fought for equal rights. In 1971, Paula, once Paul returned to her New Jersey music teacher's job as a woman. The school board thought her new presence would have a negative impact on the students and fired her. Paula fought the issue until 1976, when the New Jersey Superior Court held that she be paid disability benefits from the school board due to their uncompromising stance. Today Grossman lives with her original wife and together they raised their three daughters. She also continues to ride motorcycles, collect guns and study the American Civil War.

Dawn Langley Hall

A British ex-pat who moved to the U.S. in 1962, Hall became famous for his fine taste in antiques and for his writing. He mostly wrote biographies of women, whom he strongly identified with. The hormone treatments began in 1966, and two years later after the final operation, Dawn Hall married a 22 year old mechanic who was 15 years her junior. Dawn's aristocratic family approved of her marriage, but one of her great aunt's complained, "I do wish that Dawn wasn't marrying a Baptist."

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with Sarah N. Dippity

Deborah Martin

In 1953, a troubled 20 year old Austin Martin joined the U.S. Navy in hope of jumping ship in Denmark for a sex-change operation. He instead got stationed on American soil. Austin married and fathered a daughter, but continued his school age dream of "joining the girls on the other side of the room." Often he tried to castrate himself, but found that a trip to Casablanca, Morocco would be the best way to find the medical procedure for the change. Martin became a lecturer on transsexualism at colleges and made the radio and television appearances as well.

Nancy Hunt

Nancy was a late bloomer, she never found that she was TS until she was 47. Hunt's career was distinguished as a feature writer for the *Chicago Tribune*. Hunt became miserable in 1968 and hoped to get killed while covering the Vietnam War, having survived and entering a period of dressing as a woman, he was operated on at age 49. Hunt continued her work at the *Tribune*, but was assigned to the copy desk. She made an appearance in an early Donahue show. You can see part of the interview in the film, *Dressed to Kill*.

Christine Jorgensen

The late Christine was one the first well publicized transsexuals. The 98 pounder discharged from the army in the late 1940's, sensed that something was wrong
Continued on Page 22, Famous TS's

Princess Diane.... Takes The BIG Walk

As we all came together to celebrate the "Illusions Social Club's" 4th birthday, I will always remember the day as one of the most special times in the life of Diane. Having said that, I would like to take this opportunity to express my thoughts on being selected as 1st Princess.

The first "Illusion's" birthday party I had attended was last years "Gala". Having only been a club member for about two months I was fascinated by all the "Glitz" and "Pageantry" of the "Affair". I had never seen or met so many "Crossdressers" in one place in my entire life.

I watched as the centerpiece of the birthday celebrations, that being the "Crowning" of the new "Empress", unfolded. At the end of the evening I watched in envy as the new "Royalty" received their "Titles" and thought to myself, "It sure would be neat to be elected as Royalty". However, I knew it could never happen to me because I felt I lacked most of the important components it would take to run for "Empress". These components being: The Empress and Princesses had to be relatively popular within the "Club" and at the time I had only made a few friends; Two, they had to have the talent and confidence to do a solo performance and I had never previously performed anything in front of anybody in my entire life; Three, they had to have something I refer to as respect of the other members. By respect I mean that the elected candidates were recognized for a certain dedication that they showed towards the "Club", as well as the effort and attention they put into transforming themselves into the best possible image of real females. Consequently, I put my dream of ascending to "Royalty" away and filed it under "Diane's Fantasies".

Well what a difference a year makes! Since joining "Illusions" I've made lots of new friends and Diane has developed into a real entity. She received a lot of good advice and now

does a much better job of putting herself together. There was no shortage of encouragement to run for "Empress" which helped to build up the self esteem enough to overcome any fears about performing in front of a live audience.

Diane ran for "Empress" and attained the position of 1st Princess. I was neither disappointed or dejected as I feel we could not have made a better choice for "Empress" than Lisa. I know Lisa from the "Social Committee" and there is no one who is more dedicated or gives more of her time and effort to the "Club" than her.

As far as whether Diane has any true talent let's just say "The Jury Is Still Out" on that one.

Anyways, I Thank the "Sisters" of the "Club" for having the faith in me to elect me to this position and I will do my best to fulfil the obligations of my position, what ever they may be. I know for the rest of the year and perhaps forever the sisters of the "Club" will continue to refer to me as "Princess Di", a cross I must bear.

In conclusion, I think that based on some of the wild and interesting things I've seen and done in my first year of being a member of this "Great Club",

....WOW!
No lack of
"Foot-
Wear"
Here Folks.
"Shoe -
Fetish?"

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As for myself, winning the position of 1st Princess; well, I'm honored to have been selected as it tells me a little something about myself. I think I've gained a small measure of the respect that I had referred to earlier and I'm sure that I've developed a lot of true friendships within the "Club".

my reign as Princess in the upcoming year could lead me into a "Real Walk on the Wildside"!

XOXOXO

Princess Diane

Attention all you Lois Lane types!
Illusions always needs your submissions to the magazine. What's on your mind?
We also need any shutterbug gals to help take photos at Illusions functions.

Beauty ★★★★★

False eyelashes can be dramatic, but only if they stay in place. The trick: Use tweezers, glue, and plenty of patience.

Using false eyelashes convincingly is a rare talent.

Lining eyes doesn't have to be a tug-of-war. Rub the tip of the pencil between your fingers to soften it before it meets the eye.

LINING THE EYES

Cleopatra and Sophia Loren were both famous for, among other things, their eyeliner: that perfect thick black streak right along the lashes. Mere mortals can have it, too. A very sharp, very soft pencil makes the difference, according to an art assistant we know who uses Almay Kohl Formula Eyeliner. She pulls her eyelid taut, puts the point of the pencil as close to her lashes as possible at the center of her lid, and draws a line just beyond the outer corner. Then, from the inner corner, she draws a line to meet the center point. Gliding the pad of the fourth finger over the two parts blends them into one smooth, vaguely Egyptian line.

CREATING A CREASE

Makeup artists seem to perform minor reconstructive surgery with a few brushes and pots of powder. By creating

a crease in the lid, they completely redesign the eye. But how about doing it with one eye closed while looking at the reverse image in the mirror? "Women try too hard," says a public relations executive who has successfully simplified the procedure.

"The quicker you do it, the better." She first covers the entire eyelid—from lashes to eyebrow—with foundation. Then, using the darker of two neutral shades (like taupe) and a pointed sponge-tip applicator, she traces the semicircular border of the eyeball from the inner corner to the outer.

"Don't wing the eye shadow out," she says. "That doesn't look natural." She gently rubs her middle finger over the line to blend it, then mutes it with a layer of the lighter shadow, and finishes up by dusting the lighter shade on the eyelid. She doesn't put any eye shadow above the crease: "The base gives it the right natural color."

SLICK PICKS

An alternative to matte is gloss or Vaseline, worn on lips alone or over lipstick for a moisturizing shine. Makeup artist Ariella from Nubest & Co. recommends mixing a little Vaseline with lipstick

RUNWAY LIPS

Professional makeup artists do not paint by the numbers. They will start with, say, a bit of Brand X pink lipstick here, add a little dab of Brand Y brown there, and top it off with a layer of Brand Z gold. (And we haven't even mentioned pencils and glosses.)

AFFIXING FAKE LASHES

Using false eyelashes convincingly is a rare talent shared by drag queens and women who came of age in the 70s, when wearing falsies was de rigueur. "Twenty years of practice helps," says a marketing vice president from the latter group. Some women wear individual fake lashes day and night; they even sleep in them. "What if there's a fire?" says a Texas socialite.

The pros start by applying a small amount of mascara to their own lashes. Then, using a pair of handled tweezers they dip the end of the individual lash cluster into clear glue (sold at beauty-supply shops, usually found alongside the lashes), nestle it in between their real lashes, and hold it there for one second. If it feels as if it's staying in place, they move on to the next cluster.

Medium-length lashes go in the middle, short ones at the corners, "the way real lashes grow," says the marketing executive. The final step is to apply a couple of coats of mascara to blend the real and the impostors. One set of lashes can last about a week. And oil-free eye-makeup remover won't disturb the glue.

LINING THE LIPS

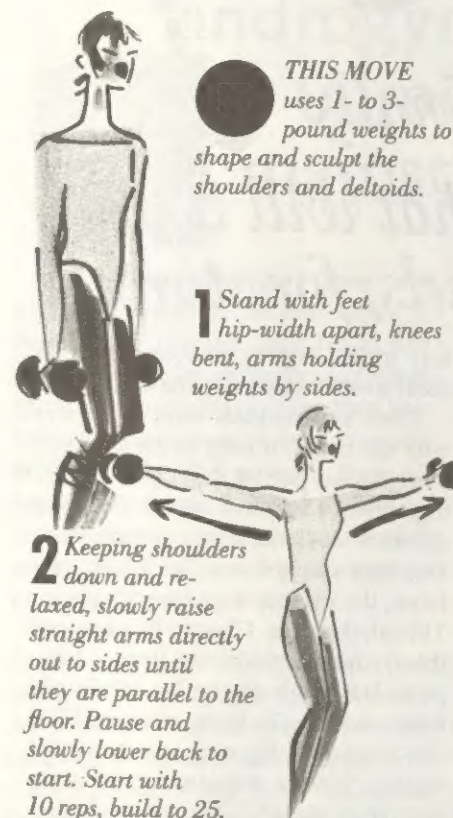
In the wrong hands, a lip pencil can turn a mouth into a wrinkled, shriveled prune. An attempt to give fullness can make lips look dirty (as if they've been drinking a glass of chocolate milk) instead of sultry. To avoid unsightly disasters, seasoned liners do two things: prepare the lip and dissect it.

An accomplished skier from Vermont smears on Neutrogena lip balm even before sharpening her pencil; the salve smooths the surface so the lip pencil doesn't pull or jump (which it does if it hits a rough patch, leaving you looking like a tarted-up drunkard).

Some women draw a line with a sharp pencil down the middle of the upper lip and use it as an anchor for the outline, then use the side of the pencil to color in the rest of the mouth. Others have a connect-the-dots approach: A dot at each corner of the upper lip and one on each peak under the nose are easily—and steadily—connected. For the best results, warm up the pencil's point by rolling it between thumb and forefinger; then it glides.

[health & fitness]

BODY BASIC: Shoulder lift



2 Keeping shoulders down and relaxed, slowly raise straight arms directly out to sides until they are parallel to the floor. Pause and slowly lower back to start. Start with 10 reps, build to 25.

Dive In

Swimmers have always known theirs was an ideal sport, but why? Swimming requires a higher energy output than other sports because not only is the body expending energy to do the sport it is also working to keep the body warm in cooler water. Swimming stretches the muscles, elongating and toning simultaneously.

How to give a great back rub

A BACK RUB IS A WONDERFUL THING TO GIVE OR get—and it only takes eight minutes.

Step one: warm-up strokes (one to two minutes) Have your partner lie comfortably on a firm surface. ● Place one hand on the shoulder, the other on the opposite hip. Slowly press your palms down and out. Repeat. Move hands to opposite sides; repeat two more times.

● Cross your arms and, starting at your partner's shoulders, press lightly down the back with the heels of your hands. Repeat.

Step two: medium pressure (four to five minutes) All movements should be slow and steady. Lean into upward strokes with your body; for a firmer stroke, keep elbows straight. ● Using your palms, or, for slightly deeper pressure, your fists, work across your partner's shoulders and down the back. Be careful not to press on spine. ● Place your thumbs on the lower back, two inches out from either side of the spine. Push down with a small circular motion. Repeat a few inches higher. Keep going until you reach the neck, then work your way back down. ● Improvise. Cup your hands and pat up and down your partner's back. Knead the shoulders. Tap the back with your fingers as if you were drumming them on a table. Says Gumin: "Encourage your partner to tell you what feels especially good—and keep doing it."

Step three: deeper pressure (one to two minutes) Using your thumbs or the heels of your hands, focus on those spots where your partner feels the most tense—usually the neck, shoulders or lower back.

Step four: the cooldown Finish by "drawing" squiggles and figure eights across your partner's back.

Six ways to slow down

A FRANTIC PACE CAUSES STRESS. INSTEAD OF rushing through your day, take your time, let your rhythm slow down. Here are six rituals to try:

● **Drive ten mph slower** Many of us drive fast, even when we're not in a rush. Slow down, take a new route or simply notice the old one more.

● **Pause a moment before eating** Saying grace or just sitting quietly reminds us to appreciate our food instead of wolfing it down.

● **Wait five minutes in your driveway before entering your house** Sit in your car and listen to music, take deep breaths—anything to allow a shift from work life to home life.

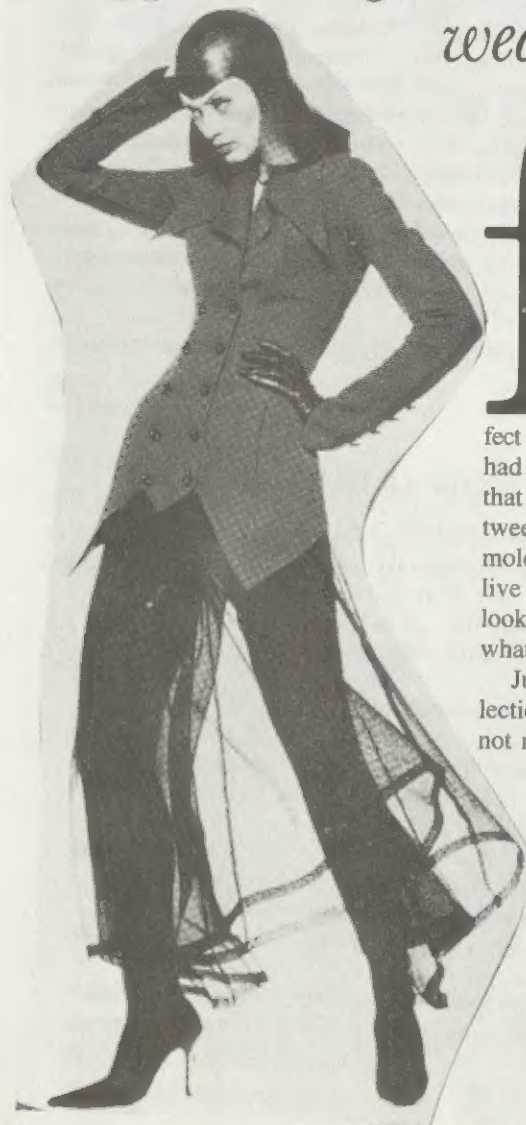
● **Shower after work** Just for a minute or two, to wash away the day's work and allow you to leave it behind for the evening.

● **Let a few rings go by before answering the phone** Many people rush to pick it up immediately, prolonging their hectic moods.

● **Honor the process itself** Whatever the task or activity, do just one thing at a time, do it well, and allow yourself a sense of accomplishment before you move on. —Stephan Rechtschaffen, M.D.

Sitting Pretty

Now that fashion has finally stepped out of the combat zone, what will women wear? Very high heels, for starters.



fashion defines femininity by extremes, exalting push-up bras one season and infant T-shirts the next. "For a couple of years we had the dollified look," says Mario Testino, who photographed Naomi Campbell for this story. "Perfect hair, perfect skin, plucked eyebrows. Then we had grunge for a second, which broke that idea of glamour." Somewhere between the combat boots and the Barbie mold lies a compromise women can live with. "To look beautiful without looking plastic," says Testino, "that's what's happening now."

Judging from the fall fashion collections, the middle ground is soft but not mushy. There are crocheted knits, feathery trims, and fake-fur collars that cradle the jawbone. Jackets nip in at the waist. Skirts flare out at the hips. Come September, it may even be safe to burn a few pairs of black opaque tights, given how some designers—Calvin Klein and Prada, to start—have dropped hemlines to the knee. Here's a length that will satisfy both the sensible and the elegant—Miss Jane Hath-

way meets Audrey Hepburn, in nude sheer-to-the-waist panty hose, no less.

Even supermodels have to evolve with the times, if only in pictures. As Testino says, part of the appeal of photographing Campbell was to free up a different look. Her hair, typically worn long and straight, was curled and set loose; the makeup kept to a minimum. The clothes, as Campbell interprets them, capture everything from a Josephine Baker joie de vivre to a little-girl lonesomeness. To those who cry, "But you're infantilizing women!" the model replies, "Grown women can do whatever they please." The photographer adds, "Who is all strength? Women should be in touch with every single part of themselves."

They also agree on what may be the ultimate symbol of womanhood—high heels. "It's the one thing that differentiates men from women," says Testino. And in spite of having been floored by some enormous purple platforms at Vivienne Westwood's show last year, Campbell always comes back to the tottering heights. Now she scratches the bottoms of slick shoes with scissors before hitting the runway. But with the grace of an ex-dancer and the passion of a shoe addict, out she goes, hips forward, toes first, heels skimming the catwalk. —FRANCES ROGERS LITTLE

Gender-Bender Beauty

The face of androgyny goes (almost) mainstream



Androgynous Twiggy types are wobbling down the fashion runways. Women are shaving their heads and donning Doc Marten boots and flannel shirts. Even men are growing their hair long and wearing earrings and not just in their ears! The outward signs of gender are more muddled than ever and the answer to the question of what is masculine and what is feminine is no longer an easy one.

The recent return of the small-breasted waifs whose hipbones are as prominent as their cheekbones could be seen as a logical reaction to the curvaceous models and conspicuous consumptions of the '80's. The return to boyish androgyny may point to something else however.

While it has been argued that after twenty years of feminism we've gained little more than the concept of the Dutch treat (and the realization that men become feminists only when they want to keep their seats on a bus), perhaps our consolation prize for not getting equal pay is freedom to wear pants to work and look like men if we want.

The privilege of dressing up as the opposite sex may be the least talked about advantage that women have in this society. Besides the comfort issue, women often say how powerful they feel when they're dressed as a man.

Today's androgynous woman of the moment is Annie Lennox, but though she wears suits and slicks her very short hair, there's never a moment when we truly see her as a man because we also see her red lips and her tweezed eyebrows forming perfect arches above her eyeliner.

Even Sinéad O'Connor, whose shaved head may be an attempt at rejecting the traditional notion of female beauty, uses plenty of mascara and lipstick. It's only when androgynous women shun cosmetics altogether that a line is crossed; after all, even K.D. Lang wears makeup!

The reason why Annie Lennox isn't perplexing to us while Michael Jackson is...may be that he appears to be more confused about his own identity. His own skin doesn't seem to sit well on him as he tries to emulate various identities. When we think of the differences and similarities of Boy George and Axl Rose...the skirt may be the same and the long hair at times but Axl definitely exudes that primitive aggression long associated with the male species.

The reason why many women may find Prince less than desirable may be rooted in the idea that they want a partner who takes less time to get ready to go out that they do. The only kind of beauty that most women want to see in a man is what's already there in his bone structure and eyelashes!

Take Sebastian Bach of Skid Row, the au natural dream boy... "I saw this great looking chick over there in a hotel lobby and it turned out to be me in a mirror!" Few women could compete with that.

Hollywood has routinely milked the hot subject of androgyny in gender swapping films, and all share that particular male fear that a man will be somehow "fooled" by outward "feminine" appearances and might fall for a member of the (gasp!) same sex!

It's not something you find women staying up at night worrying over. I've never heard a woman recall how close she came to sleeping with a guy before she found out that he was really a she, no matter how many of us are walking around in Armani suits. It



could be that unlike men in drag, women in drag are not trying to pass at all...(with the exception of some members of the hard-core lesbian community.)

Regardless of whom we try to please when we get dressed - whether its for ourselves, men, women of the general public Gender Bending is fun and sexy and attractive if people know - or think they know- the answer to the illusory riddle we are posing.

Written by Lynn Snowden

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EXECUTIVE SWEET!

reporter

Hundreds of macho bosses secretly dress like women

They're heterosexual cross-dressers — hard-nosed businessmen including corporate chiefs, successful entrepreneurs and even heavy hitters at America's largest companies — who love to doll themselves up at night after a rough day at the office!

"You'd be shocked if you knew just how many businessmen cross-dress," confided one member.

"They are some of the highest paid professionals in the country!"

Mel, a 55-year-old chief executive officer of a Chicago health care company listed on the New York Stock Exchange, goes by the name "Melony" after he's donned his wig, make-up and high heels.

"I'm much more myself when I'm Melony," he explained. "I'm not pretending to be this macho boss barking out orders all day. I can be

By day they wear pin-striped suits, tailor-made shirts and stylish ties. But at night they slip into something more comfortable

sensitive, caring and vulnerable."

Mel's been married for 13 years to his wife who doesn't mind her husband's way-out behavior a bit. "As Melony, he's sweet, nurturing and a good listener," she said.

On a typical day, his wife lays out the brightly colored muumuu, panty hose, specially padded bra and high heels that Mel hurriedly changes into after work.

"Then he puts on his lipstick, blush and eyeliner and transforms himself into this warm and loving human being," his wife said. "He puts on his makeup faster than I can!"

Joe Beecroft, executive director of Tri-Ess, is a successful book publisher in Tulare, Calif., who dresses up as "Ca-

role." He and his wife shop for clothes together and trade makeup tips.

"It's a relief to be Carole," he said.

"If I don't cross-dress often enough I get cranky."

He says his female alter ego is much more outgoing. "Carole's the life of the party — Joe's all business."

Most heterosexual cross-dressers keep their little secret hidden in the privacy of their own homes.

"I'd be out of business if my customers knew I cross-dressed," admits Daryl, a businessman who goes by the name Darlene at night. The 53-year-old entrepreneur manu-

factures dune buggies in a Southwestern state — a business he says depends on his macho image.

"It's a real man's profession. My income would go straight down the tubes if my customers found out I put on lipstick and nail polish and trade my cowboy boots for pumps!"

Dr. Richard Docter, head of the psychology department at California State University in Northridge, explained the men's gender-bending behavior.

"They're pretending to be these tough, macho businessmen — when underneath there's a deeper emotional need that's not being addressed."

"Dressing up in women's clothing gives them permission to feel, cry and blush."

— silky caftans,
ultra-sheer panty hose and

three-inch high heels!



The Cross-Gender Questionnaire

(Experimental version 2.0)

Richard F. Docter, Ph.D. and James S. Fleming, Ph.D.
California State University, Northridge

Please respond to each item by showing whether it is **MORE TRUE** or
MORE FALSE. Please mark in the TRUE (T) or FALSE (F) box.

Please respond to all items.

- | T | F | |
|-----|-----|--|
| () | () | |
| () | () | 1. When I wear women's clothing I do not consider it "cross dressing" because my true gender is feminine (or mostly feminine). |
| () | () | 2. I have an alternative "fantasy cross dressing wardrobe" which is too sexy to wear in public. |
| () | () | 3. I have adopted a feminine name which is now my legal name. |
| () | () | 4. If I am wearing a sexy dress I sometimes feel more attracted to men. |
| () | () | 5. I Believe I am a "woman in a man's body." |
| () | () | 6. Sometimes I have acquired more sets of fancy underwear or other sexy clothing than I need. |
| () | () | 7. I have a driver's license or other valid identification showing my "female" picture and name. |
| () | () | 8. I eat in restaurants in my feminine role several times a year. |
| () | () | 9. In my feminine role, I usually feel like I am a woman. |
| () | () | 10. Sometimes I get a sexual thrill when I see my feminine image in a mirror. |
| () | () | 11. While in the feminine role, men I did not know have bought me refreshments or drinks. |
| () | () | 12. I have lived entirely (or almost entirely) as a woman for more than six consecutive months. |
| () | () | 13. I prefer to think of my feminine name as my real name. |
| () | () | 14. While in the feminine role, I have been escorted to a restaurant by a man as his date. |
| () | () | 15. When I feel tense, wearing something feminine will usually make me feel a little more calm. |
| () | () | 16. I have lived entirely (or almost entirely) as a woman for one year or longer. |
| () | () | 17. I can experience feelings of being female at any time no matter how I am dressed. |
| () | () | 18. Buying and using beautiful makeup will often make me feel sexually excited. |
| () | () | 19. I have received 10 or more hours of electrolysis. |
| () | () | 20. I have received 50 or more hours of electrolysis. |
| () | () | 21. While in the feminine role, I have been escorted to some kind of entertainment event by a man on a date. |
| () | () | 22. Even when not in the feminine role I reveal some feminine mannerisms (or I used to). |
| () | () | 23. Putting on lipstick or perfume often makes me feel erotic or sexy. |
| () | () | 24. I can enjoy being a woman, but at other times I enjoy being a man. |
| () | () | 25. I often prefer sexy hosiery and high heels to the more ordinary style many women wear. |
| () | () | 26. Being in the feminine role is almost always a sexually arousing experience for me. |
| () | () | 27. While in the feminine role, I have danced with a man. |
| () | () | 28. Wearing beautiful lingerie usually gives me some sexual excitement. |
| () | () | 29. When in my feminine role I feel I am expressing my "true self," not putting on an act. |
| () | () | 30. I have talked to a physician about obtaining female hormones (whether you did obtain them or not). |
| () | () | 31. While in the feminine role, I have been passionately kissed on the lips by a man. |
| () | () | 32. If it were possible, I'd choose to live my life as a woman (or I now do so). |
| () | () | 33. Some specific articles of clothing usually have an especially powerful effect on my sexual arousal. |
| () | () | 34. I have taken female hormones regularly for three months or longer. |
| () | () | 35. While in the feminine role, I have had a physical encounter with a man that went beyond kissing. |
| () | () | 36. If I must put aside my feminine role for even a short time, it is very hard for me to do so. |

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cont'd next page

The Cross-Gender Questionnaire

(Scoring Procedure & Interpretation)

NOTE: Remember this is for your general information only and any conclusions you reach should always be discussed with competent professionals.

Obtain a total score for each scale by adding the items answered YES and the items answered NO.

Cross-Gender Identity (14 Items). We believe this scale is measuring cross-gender self percepts and cross-gender identifications. High scores are believed predictive of sustained commitment to engage in cross-gender behaviour. Low scores are predictive of episodic gender-exchanging. Yes items: 1, 5, 9, 13, 17, 22, 29, 32, 36, 41, 45, 49. No items: 24, 53.

Cross-Gender Feminization (13 Items). High scores are predictive of high motivation to feminize the male body, to achieve legally recognized feminine gender status, and to live entirely in the cross-gender mode. Yes items: 3, 7, 8, 12, 16, 19, 20, 30, 34, 39, 43, 47, 51.

Cross-Gender Sexual Arousal (16 Items). High scores denote an association, past or present, between cross-gender behaviour and erotic arousal. Yes items: 2, 6, 10, 15, 18, 23, 25, 26, 28, 33, 37, 38, 42, 46, 50, 54.

Cross-Gender Social/Sexual Role (12 Items). High scores are associated with sustained commitment to taking the cross-gender role in real-life situations and social and sexual interactions with men when in the cross-gender mode. High scores reflect substantial role enactment not simply plans or fantasies of possible future action. Items also loaded on this scale (inversely) are those which indicated a predominant heterosexual orientation. Yes items: 4, 11, 14, 21, 27, 31, 35, 40, 44, 48, 52, 55.

The Questionnaire and Interpretations are from "Dimensions of Transvestism and Transsexualism: The Validation and Factorial Structure of the Cross-Gender Questionnaire" by Richard F. Docter, PhD. and James S. Fleming, PhD. found in the book "Gender Dysphoria - Interdisciplinary Approaches in Clinical Management". Editors: Walter O. Bockting, Drs. and Eli Coleman, PhD.

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shopping list

☐ The top ten essentials you'll want in your closet this year: ☐

1. twirly denim skirt for the "Illusions" Stampede Barbeque.
2. swimsuit to enjoy those warm summer days.
3. long, flowered summer dress to sit back and enjoy the evening breeze at "Girls of Summer II" party.
4. a fun outfit (maid, nurse, bridal, etc.) for our "Dress for Pleasure" night.
5. a pretty evening dress for the "Christmas Party".
6. long, soft evening wear to while away the winter hours.
7. red, Lady in Red, a red knockout dress for Valentines.
8. don't forget those red 4" pumps for that red dress.
9. sequins, glittery sequins, for the "ISCCA Ball" and those "High brow" charity events.
10. a "Special" party dress, you bet, a must for the "Illusions" 5 th Birthday.

Kelly's Story..... a wife's perspective!

I'm quite certain that, by now, I have re-written this opening paragraph at least 100 times - and for a woman whose very livelihood centers around my ability to express my thoughts on paper, well, let's just say that it has been a little frustrating. I simply had no idea that writing this piece would evoke so many emotions in me. Anyhow, on with the task at hand.

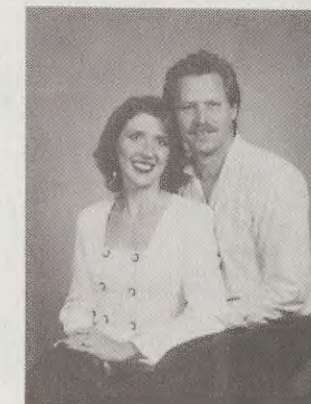
I would like to share with you a story about a discovery I made just 4 short months ago. A discovery that has, in fact, forever altered my relationship with my husband. You see in March 1994, I discovered that my husband David is a cross-dresser.

David and I have shared our lives for the past 8 years and no matter how far-fetched it may seem to me now; up until that point I actually believed that I knew his every thought, desire, and fantasy. I prided myself on knowing him better than he knew himself!

In retrospect, I can see that the clues were all there. Hind-sight is, after all, 20/20. Somewhere deep in my subconscious I had made the decision to ignore them. I was in denial, but secrets will wreak havoc on even the strongest relationships and regardless of how hard I tried to dismiss the signs, a voice lurked deep in the back of my mind. It cast doubts on my husband questioning his values and questioning his morals. I had no idea of what David was doing when I wasn't at home, but my imagination had concocted some rather nasty images. By letting human nature take over I came to assume the worst of him.

Now before I go any further, I would like to point out a few things about our relationship. When David and I first got together, we did an awful lot of partying. Alcohol was almost always the key component to what I would have considered a successful night out. I found that alcohol provided me with a means to let loose my inhibitions, and a good drunk on my part would most times guarantee

David an evening of uninhibited passion. Those were the times when David would become bold enough to request that he wear a pair of my panties during our love making. In my drunken state, I would laughingly agree. However, come morning, I would not! - no, I could not address the prior night! You see, if I confronted David on what I considered his "panty quirk", I feared he might well have confronted me on my drinking habit. So I said nothing; I pre-tended it never happened.



This basically went on for 6 years. "Normal" sex during the week, and on the weekends he got to appease his habit. Then, in 1992, I faced my drinking problem head-on. While I am extremely proud of the fact that I have not since touched alcohol, I (in my new found sober state of mind) was quick to stifle any of David's requests to don my panties while making love. In fact, I was mortified the first time that he made the request. I acted as though we had never done such a thing before!

I realize now that I was desperately struggling to find an inner peace with myself during my first year of sobriety. I had inadvertently shut David out - both mentally and physically. It took a year before I really started to like myself again. It also took a year before I was emotionally prepared to face the fact that I had put our relationship on hold.

During that year, David turned to his feminine clothing as a means of handling my rejection. On many occasions I would come home and find him locked in our back room.

Scurrying out, he would be flush from a mixture of his excitement and embarrassment. **This infuriated me!** I still didn't know just what he was doing back there, but I was sure he had turned into some sort of pervert.

David was furious with me - furious and hurt that I had shut him out of my life. It was only after he told me that I had become frigid that I realized the time had come to take the horse by the reins.

We went to a book store that day and purchased three wonderful self-help books. "Awakening Your Inner Self" which deals with the sexual problems women in recovery face (I was overjoyed to read that the emotions I was experiencing were all 100% normal); "Restoring the Pleasure" which offers couples a step-by-step guide to re-opening the lines of communication - both emotional and physical; finally "Different Loving" which offers insight to the many fetishes that exist (including a large section on cross-dressing). David and I were enjoying each other with a new found exuberance. Our relationship was truly back on track. Then, like some weird twist of fate, **I made the discovery.** Boxes and boxes of his female undergarments and female clothing. My first reaction was that of outrage. David had been deceiving me all along. His secret was out, or so I thought, and in my state of mind there was only one explanation. My husband was gay!

"I was sure he had turned into a Pervert!"

Well, David happened to be out of town when I found his cache, so I had the entire weekend to determine the fate of our marriage. Much to my surprise, my anger lasted for a surprisingly short period of time. The more I considered my predicament, the more I came to doubt the likelihood that David was gay. We had put too much time and effort into making our relationship work.

continued on page 29

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Famous TS's

From page 8

with him and studied medical reports that showed that male and female hormones exist in both sexes. He wanted to learn more and enrolled in a medical technicians course where he began to take estrogen without prescription. In 1950 he flew to Denmark, where Dr. Christian Hamburger completed two of three operations for the sex change. Christine returned to New York and received an unexpected barrage of attention. Headlines read: "Ex-GI Returns Home Blond Beauty". Christine capitalized on her attentions by becoming a nightclub entertainer and actress. A 1972 movie was made about her life, a preview of which made an everlasting impression on Sarah's young mind, I realized at 8 years that there are other like me. If you have a copy of this film, please donate a copy to the Illusions library.

Jan Morris

Another famous TS who left the army was the former James Morris. Oxford, England educated and one of the most respected travel writers in print. Morris was happily married and fathered five children, although was never thrilled with sex, finding it distasteful. Instead, he experienced the travel life and gained his initial fame from covering the ascent of Everest. It took a 10 year period to transition over to being a woman, living an androgynous life, undergoing the operation in Casablanca in 1972. In 1960, James wrote the acclaimed book, *Venice*, which praised the Italian city, but since, Jan has written articles attacking it. Morris's books are available in the travel writing section. The Illusions library keeps a copy of her biography.

Jude Patton

Seldom does this magazine report on female to male crossdressers or transsexuals. We wouldn't ignore the subject, but there are few who go public, and we meet few. Of that minority, is the former Judith Patton, a tomboy who refused a college scholarship because she was told that female students were required to wear dresses. Judith had to take factory work in her small mid-western U.S. town. Her life changed when she heard of Stanford University's transsexual

program and undertook the four operations to make her a man in 1973. Jude became a mailman and was now able to go to university as man, he studied to be a clinical psychologist.

Renee Richards

Dr. Richard Raskin was never happy with his life as a man and in 1975 he became Renne and moved from New York to California. A passionate tennis player, Renne entered the women's competitive circuit and won her first tournament at La Jolla, California. Rennee's triumph was short lived, an investigative reporter learned of her past life and the news caused 25 women to drop out of the next tournament she was to play in, the remaining players were required to undergo sex-hormone treatments, Richard's couldn't fully pass and was not allowed into the tournament, she filed a lawsuit. She won her case in 1977, when the New York Supreme Court ruled that Richards was in fact female. Renee devoted her life to playing tennis, but was never successful in beating the upper seed players. Her autobiography, called, *Second Serve* is a good read, a copy we need in the Illusions library.

Caroline Cossey aka Tula

Perhaps the most glamorous of transsexuals, Tula is a model and an actress. Her looks are enviable but her story has it's woes. English born in 1954, she always wanted to a girl like her sister. Frustrated at small town life, she moved to London and onto Paris for female roles in stage shows. Tula became a woman in 1974, and with her great looks landed modeling jobs, In the James Bond film, *For Your Eyes Only* she was one of the

bathing babes at the Greek mansion scene. Tula married the man of her dreams and her direction was only up until the tabloid press discovered her past, she became a freak and her marriage was now considered illegal in the British system. She began the battle to change her birth certificate, but to this day the courts still consider her a man. Christine has written a review of Tula's book, *My Story* which is in this issue and if you look through the Illusions video library there are a few talk shows with Tula as guest.

Sarah has more news...

-From the Illusions foreign affairs desk comes the story of an all male ballet troupe in St. Petersburg, Russia. The troupe headed by Valery Mikhailovsky demonstrates the modern male dances in the first half of a show, and in the second part they transform into classical ballerinas for their interpretation of female dances. Sometimes the audience roars with laughter at what they see, but Mikhailovsky says, "We don't do this for laughs, but as a service to the art."

-Being a city gal, Sarah has never heard of this before, but maybe some of our out of town Illusions friends can enlighten us on this subject. On the prairies, there has been a tradition of a mock wedding where the woman wears the tuxedo and the groom the gown and veil. The phenomena has been studied by Edmonton Folklorist Michael Taft, he discovered that the mock wedding has been around since the 1930's and are generally held on the a couple's anniversary or important date in the community.

The ceremony is played for laughs, with the traditional wedding script altered to include puns and double-entendres and the men going extreme in depicting women's behaviour and manners.

Taft documented dozens of the weddings but found few men who openly talk about them. Those who did said they did it as a sign of being a good sport, some viewed it as a reaffirmation of their manhood. Taft believes that a farmer or rancher is at mercy to the natural elements, having little control on his life. Dressing up gives him the option to take back control, it's a bold decision.

Tah, Tah girls 'till next issue-Sarah

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SHOES

Letter from the Editor Blah, Blah, Blah

When the summer winds blow in, my much needed rest comes. As you know...I take August off and head for the beach with my family. Its a great chance to spend some quality times together with my kids and also a great chance for me to not only re-charge my physical batteries...but to reflect on past issues.

Working in the store for the past 4 years (boy time flies when you're having fun!)... has "Never been a dull moment!" Many people have come out of their closets and I'm honored to have been, in most cases, the first confidante! Once friendships have been made,,,then the memories are treasured. Lots of Illusions gals have become like cement fixtures in our club and the future will only get better. Some of the conversations that have transpired over the years,,, whether they be confidential or in group discussions have always stimulated thoughts in my mind.

Some things I find to be quite aggravating ...can we talk?

1) The lack of involvement in the Lesbian and Gay and Bisexual Community from members.

In my opinion people in the transgendered community have a lot of issues in common with the les-bi-gay community. I hate hearing.."Yes I crossdress, but I'm not gay!" Or the real kicker is when someone says that they "only want to be around heterosexual crossdressers". Oh Please! The sheer arrogance of people who will justify their own actions by putting down others- who will elevate themselves by stripping the selfworth of others- is revolting to me. They are saying , in effect, "Hey, what I do is okay. I may get off on panties and high heeled shoes, but at least I'm not a damned faggot."

Get it into your heads that there is nothing wrong with being a gay person. There is something wrong with being a bigot.

In the last 4 years that I have been "out" in the community I have met a multitude of people that excel - in the areas of honesty, integrity, compassion, generosity, spirituality and helpfulness. I purposely put this photo of myself and Don Bastian in to make my point.



I met him at my first "Ball" way back in 1990. Since then our lives have intertwined and I know it has been beneficial for us both. Had I stuck to the heterosexual side of life our paths would never of crossed and that would of been a real shame for not only just us, but also for both of our communities. Life without Don would be really boring !

Sharing your thoughts and feelings isn't always as easy as it seems...it takes time ...but wouldn't it make better sense to share your life with people that you treasure than being all alone with your needs?

So get off your butts and your excuses and find out what's happening "OUT" there. So what if someone sees you at a Pride Rally... stand up for yourself and stand up for others...Others that are experiencing

true discrimination. Get off those cushy couches and find out what's happening. It helps to build solidarity and even do some good. Join anything that sounds interesting to you. Education does pay off..

Speaking of education....are you aware of the Stonewall celebrations? Thanks to some feisty drag queens in 1969.. people are standing together against discrimination.

So if you are sensitive to others' issues...then they are more apt to be sensitive to yours. Get out there!

2)"She'll never understand"....

If there's a comment that stirs up various emotions....that's the winner! So many husbands figure that their wives would never understand and yes this is not a black & white issue I realize...but how can you live and supposedly share your life with someone ...but leave out parts of yourself.? I have a hard time with this subject, because of my values on relationships. I think that some of you underestimate your partner by "not telling" and you leave wedges in your lives that distance you from those that you love.. In so many ways the crossdresser leads a working life of macho rule but given an emotional challenge to deal with, he runs for cover. Little boys are always afraid These are all tidbits to chew on..

Sharpen up on your speaking skills with others... we aren't just passing ships in the night...we're human beings with lots to share and care about. Burst out of your closets and make it your agenda to share your life and your experiences with others...

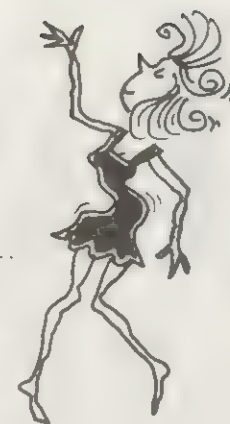
Someone will always benefit! Three cheers for those we love!

love *Barbie.*

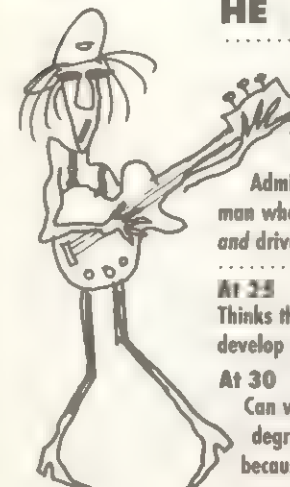
[the world according to he & she]

BY JULIE LOGAN AND ARTHUR HOWARD

Oh, what a difference a half decade makes!



HE



At 25

Idolizes sports figures and rock gods.

At 30

Admires the successful entrepreneur and city councilman who got a toxic-waste dump cleaned up and drives the new \$135,000 Mercedes S600 sedan.

At 25

Thinks that if you eat enough junk food you can develop an immunity to it.

At 30

Can whip up a mean eggs Benedict with some degree of skill but has no business eating it because of his love handles and cholesterol levels.

At 25

His friends are his partners in crime.

At 30

His friends are his business associates.

At 25

Wishes he had more money.

At 30

Wishes he had more hair.

At 25

On sex
"Me. Me. Me. Me. Me."

At 30

On sex
"Me. Me. Gee, what about her? Nah. Me. Me."

At 25

What if ...

a) "... I had taken up snowboarding instead of skiing?"

b) "... they hadn't traded Lenny Dykstra to Philly?"

c) "... I had said to the triplets, 'Your place, your place, your place or mine?'"

At 30

What if ...

a) "... I got a fixed rate instead of a variable?"

b) "... I had gone to law school?"

c) "... I was 25 again?"

SHE

At 25

Idolizes Marie Curie, Margaret Mead, Eleanor Roosevelt and Whitney Houston.

At 30

Admires anyone who can combine work, motherhood and a good haircut while managing to stay sane.

At 25

Is pretty sure that a 30-day lettuce diet will give her the body she wants.

At 30

Wishes that a 30-day lettuce diet would give her the body she once had.

At 25

Her friends are expected to hear about and analyze in depth her partner's every fault, quirk and idiosyncrasy.

At 30

Her friends are expected to speak no evil about her partner.

At 25

Wishes she had more money.

At 30

Wishes she had better hair.

At 25

On sex
"Well, you know I'd like to, but my roommate's going to be home any minute, and besides, I think maybe we should be better friends first, and besides, if we do it now, how do I know you'll ever call again?"

At 30

On sex
"What do you mean?!?! That's it?"

At 25

What if ...

a) "... I had dated his roommate?"

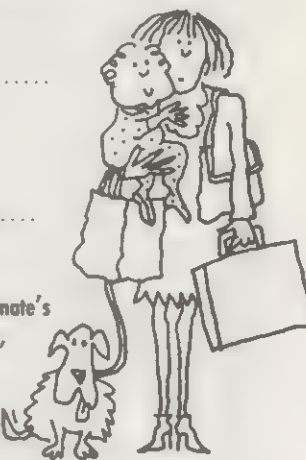
b) "... I hadn't majored in anthropology?"

c) "... I had had the frozen yogurt instead of ice cream?"

At 30

What if ...

a) "... I knew then what I know now?"



Dear Barbie....Hi! Its Darlene from Japan. I just wanted to drop a line to say that I'll be leaving here at the end of July. I plan to travel around the world for 2-3 months before heading back to Winnipeg to look for work. I've met some beautiful Japanese TVs here and while I'm a bit isolated in my little corner of Japan, I'm corresponding with a few of them. I've gotten to know myself better as a result. I hope to come and visit Calgary and go to Illusions. Take care and best wishes.....Darlene.

Letters

COME ON, DON'T BE SHY, WE WOULD LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU!!!! WRITE US TODAY.

Send us a letter with a personal story, an article you read, or just a note saying Hi! Larger submissions would be appreciated on HD Diskette or newer smaller hard disk.

Dear Barbie & Christine.... Hi! Just a quick note to let you know that I arrived back to Canada's model town safe and sound. My wife is glad that I'm back home and next time I come to Calgary I'll have to bring the family! All I can say is WOW! I can't believe that I made it to the birthday, and that I'm now an Illusions Princess....what a natural high! Its like a dream come true. The time went by so fast when I was there! Once again I wish you two much love and happiness and I'll get an article or two together in the near future. Say HI to everyone for me...OK? Take care and God Bless..."Love Ursula"

Dear Sisters... I have some wonderful news to tell you about..on May 27 I told my wife about my wanting to dress as a woman around the house and showed her my outfit a black skirt, shoes, wigs, earrings, white blouse and my copies of Illusions magazine! We talked and I showed her some stores and we talked some more. She now lets me wear my things in the house but she still is a little uncertain about it all. I don't think that she fully understands the feelings that I get when I dress up and its a hard thing to explain to someone who can't see why dressing in woman's clothes can make one feel at peace with one's self. Years ago I read an article about crossdressing wrote by a doctor and in it he said that in the beginning of development of a fetus it is both male and female. As it grows and the cells divide the dominate genes take over developing into either a man or a woman. If it becomes a make it still has a lot of female genes in its system. In most men it is suppressed and overcome by the male ego. In others the female side surfaces and a desire to be a woman is so strong that he must do something of go crazy. I don't know if this is true or not but I think it is a good explanation of why a man would want to crossdress. I hope that it will help other Crossdressers to explain at least to themselves why they have the urge to dress up. Thank you...I needed to tell my story ...By for now.....Joan.



....Guess Who's New At the Club?....

#302 MELISSA.....Novice and happy to have a place to go. Been in Calgary for last 6 years.
#303 DEANA.....Raced her way to Calgary. A creator of fine furniture.
#304 RAQUAL.....Likes the "Tight", "Sexy" look. Watch for her at the Club.
#305 DEBRA.....Been a TV for 20 years, likes the great outdoors.
#306 MANDY.....From central B.C. Longtime C.D. but new to going out.
#307 MELLISA.....Closet TV since very young. Looking forward to venturing out to the Club.
#308 AMANDA.....Looking to find out what she's been hiding for so long.

#309 CINDY.....Edmontonian who will be visiting the Club on a regular basis.
#310 BEVERLY.....Recently out and taking a 15 year closet for a walk.
#311 THERESA.....Originally from Windsor and likes to dress for fun.
#312 JANET.....Very new and amazed.
#313 BETTY.....Used to dress 10 years ago and I miss all the fun I had.
#314 CATHERINE...Started dressing at age 5, been living in Calgary for 25 of my 31 years.

By ROYCE CALHOUN

He's A Guy; She's A Guy!

Why do men go for men in drag? What makes those special "women" really special?

My friend, Ralph, has a wife in the suburbs but, once or twice a week, Ralph spends a wild night in the city, squiring about a lovely armful named Nicki. Ralph takes Nicki to clubs and fancy eating spots where he holds her hand over dinner, dances with her after the meal, and generally shows off her beauty.

Nicki is beautiful, slim and taut like a tigress but soft and sweet too. Her long black hair, pale skin, flashing eyes and wide crimson mouth attract a lot of attention. Nicki looks good in just about anything, but she looks best in a tight, black evening gown that clings to her body like a second skin.

Once, overcome with the dizziness of wine, Nicki slipped from Ralph's arms while they were on the dance floor, and slithered across the top of the glistening instrument as the piano player grinned. A little growl escaped Nicki's sexy throat.

Ralph walked to the piano and Nicki slipped her arms around his neck, ran her fingers through his hair, and kissed him full on the mouth for the longest time. When the kiss was over, she finally allowed Ralph to ease her off the piano and back into his arms again.

That was a night Ralph will always remember. He is sure he was the envy of every man who saw Nicki on that piano. But Ralph is used to other men's envy. In fact he wallows in it. Most of the men who see Nicki yearn to have such a beautiful girl in their arms and ultimately in their bed.

What those envying men don't know is that Nicki is a guy!

During the day, he's just regular Nick, working as a photographer earning a

living, but at night, when he is Nicki, he is fiery and lusty. Nicki likes to be held. Nicki likes to have sex with her man

Her man, Ralph, is bisexual, and very much attracted to drag queens. Before Nicki there was Jodi and Ginger and Serena.

These gals are all transvestites, men who like to dress in women's clothes. They can move easily back and forth from one gender to the other. Although all were definitely effeminate males, no one ever thought of them as women when they were dressed in their masculine attire.

Not all transvestites are effeminate and not all are homosexual or even bisexual. Some men like to dress up as women merely to express the feminine side of their personalities or dive deep into some dark ocean of their heterosexuality.

And transvestites are not to be confused with transsexuals - men who have operations so they can become women, men who feel they are really women trapped in male bodies. Some bisexual men date only transsexuals, but it has been my experience that men who feel that they are really women and mistakes of nature are a little scary to most bisexual partners.

Men who simply dress in women's clothing and put on girlish airs, however, do not unnerve their male partners nearly so much

Why do men like Ralph go for drag queens? I was curious. These are some theories about gender in the 90's.

1) Drag Queens are the closest things we have to old-fashioned girls these days.

I wouldn't say that Nicki is like the girl who married dear old Dad, but she certainly takes special care to please her man. She cooks his favorite foods, and wears his favorite clothes. She picks out everything with him in mind. "Nicki works hard at looking nice for

me", says Ralph, "and at turning me on". Only foreign women can match drag queens when it comes to making a man really feel like a man".

Ralph's wife, on the other hand, is a liberated woman who wants an equal share of the relationship. She runs her own business and dresses the way she wants to dress and she often sleeps in an old T-shirt. While there is nothing inherently wrong with women's liberation, the movement has left men like Ralph at a loss.

"Frankly, a lot of the romance has gone out of my marriage", Ralph admits, "because I've had some trouble adapting to my wife's change in attitude. It seems she doesn't want me to be all man any longer. She wants to be, at least partially the man of the house too."

But Nicki wants Ralph to be the real man of the relationship. She is content to play the part of the meek, mild woman, because in her male life in business, she gets plenty of chances to assert masculine attributes.

"When I am with Nicki, I feel like a macho guy," Ralph says with a blush. "With Nicki, the romance never seems to die".

2) Drag Queens are actually more girlish than most woman these days.

Ralph appreciates the sound of a fine giggle. "You don't hear many woman giggling these days", he says. "You don't see them flirt with you, batting their eyelashes and purse their lips, and let you know that they really want you. A lot of women today think flirting is somehow beneath them."

They may also think that flirting - especially flirting with men they don't know - is a little dangerous. A lot of drag queens, however don't seem to mind the danger they are, after all, men and I suppose they can handle themselves in any situation.

Because they are playing a role, drag queens feel free to overplay their

cont'd on page 32

Melanie's Pocket Dictionary

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Summer is the perfect season to be an amateur philosopher. After all it is much too hot to do anything other than sunning those "Bikini Lines" and making sure there is something cold to refill your mug. One cannot help but become an instant observer and commentator of the world around us. Enough said.

The one aspect of society that never ceases to amaze me, is how every segment has developed its unique set of terminology. Whether it is computer nerds debating the merits of x - amounts of megabytes, or avid cyclists discussing how many nano-seconds they were able to shave off their last race, or yuppie larvae raving about the musical intricacies of "Rap" stars named "Maximum Ice". Everybody seems to have their own "Buzz" words.

One new to the "Crossdressing" scene could probably use a de-briefing before engaging in a dialogue with someone who's been involved in crossdressing for awhile. Not that there

Scented Suds

In the extended family of perfume, there are scented body creams, bath gels, and even deodorants. The missing link? Shampoo. Not anymore. more and more cosmetics companies

are any great secrets here, but all the same, some de-mystification is in order.

The first phrase often used is the word "Purge". As one club member explained it, all it really means is someone needing an excuse for a new wardrobe. O.K. that was easy enough, now time for something more difficult.

The expression "Out of the Closet" is one tossed around a great deal. What does that mean? It does not necessarily mean the entire western hemisphere is aware you like to wear women's underwear, although for some of our members that may ring true. Basically it means you have been dressed outside of your bedroom and another individual is aware of your activities (sorry the parish priest doesn't count).

If you hear someone mention their spouse, they could be referred to in one of four ways:

- 1) Totally Unaccepting - Translation "Talk to my Lawyer".
- 2) Tolerant - "Buy your own clothes".
- 3) Understanding - "Buy your own clothes".
- 4) Accepting - "Can I borrow your skirt!"

Quickly, here is a list of other phrases and words used quite liberally by our "Lifestyle".

- 1) TV Mirror - "Time to get the eyes checked".
- 2) Blonde - "Someone who considers Diane Mirosch neat".
- 3) Tuck - "If you have to ask you do not want to know".
- 4) Corset - "A behaviour modification device to go on slim fast".
- 5) Illusions - "A FUN PLACE".

Anyway, time to slip into the pool and I hope everybody has a great summer. Hope to see you at the next "Social" and maybe I could hear some of your definitions.

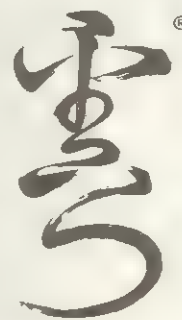
are whipping up shampoos to complement - rather than clash with - the parent Fragrance. Two in one shampoo/conditioners also eliminate the possibility of a competing smell from conditioner. What next? Perfumed hair spray?

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Continued from page 19

Kelly's Story

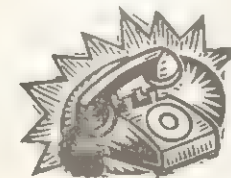
By the end of the weekend I finally realized that what I wanted more than anything else were some honest answers. It was time for me to take my head out of the sand, and it was time for David to come out of the closet.

Now don't get the idea that I just let him off the hook. As I said before, David had some serious explaining to do. I confronted him not with anger, but with care and concern. I still didn't know what he did with the garments. So we sat down and we talked. No, David was not gay. Yes, David wanted to make our relationship work. While he couldn't fully explain why he enjoyed wearing women's clothing, he asked that I read the section on crossdressing in our book "Different Loving". I found it enlightening. I have found that educating myself about cross-dressing has imparted to me a wealth of understanding.

Although it has taken some adapting on my part, I am extremely happy that David is finally out of the closet. He has been cross-dressing since his early boy-hood, and it has taken him until age 38 to find a partner with whom he could share his secret. I am honored to be that person.

While I do not claim to be an expert on the subject of crossdressing, I do know that, had I chose to leave David, there would have forever been a void in my life. There is nothing deviant about my husband having a feminine side to his personality....

"WHAT I DO FIND DEVIANT, HOWEVER, IS A SOCIETY MORE TOLERANT TOWARDS MEN WHO BEAT THEIR WIVES; THAN OF MEN WHO FEEL SECURE ENOUGH TO EXPRESS THEIR FEMININE SIDE!"



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REVIEW REVUE by Christine

This time I will be Reviewing a book and will also supply you with information on some of the various "Club" publications we have managed to acquire. These publications come to us through exchange programs we have set up with other "Clubs" in North America. First the book.....**GENDER DYSPHORIA** - Interdisciplinary Approaches in Clinical Management...(Editors are Walter O. Bockting, Drs. and Eli Coleman, PhD....published by The Haworth Press, Inc.)

This book contains eight different papers on current treatment approaches by an international pool of clinicians and researchers who specialize in the area of gender identity disorders.

I found this book extremely interesting as it deals with Terminology and Classification, Dimensions of TV/TS, Hormones and their Influences, Regrets after SRS, Dysphoria in Young People and Females, and Treatment Approaches. There are a few "Dry" spots but all in all a worth while read. You may notice in the magazine we have included a questionnaire that was taken from this book.

Now on to "Club" publications.....these are always interesting in that you are able to see how other groups deal with various issues and what is happening around North America.

We have publications from - Northwest Gender Alliance, Portland, Oregon; The Primrose, Chicago Gender Society, Chicago, Illinois; MiSs C's Musings, Monarch Social Club, Mississauga, Ontario; Emerald City News, Seattle, Washington; Eon Accord, Syracuse, New York; Foundation for the Advancement of Trans-gendered people's Equality society, Vancouver, B.C.; Notes From The Underground, Gender Mosaic, Ottawa, Ontario; just recently we have started to exchange with International Foundation for Gender Education, Wayland, Massachusetts, for The TV-TS Tapestry; and American Educational Gender Information Service, Decatur, Georgia, with the Chrysalis Quarterly. All the aforementioned publications plus magazines, various books and videos are available for loan to our membership through our "Illusions" Library. There is a lot of worthwhile reading at your disposal and we are trying to enlarge our "Library" content for you. So "Girls" check it out.

LOOKING OUT MY WINDOW a social commentary by Christine

Hasn't it just been an **ACTION** packed few months! The ISCCA Ball, ISCCA Investitures, The Black Wedding, Illusions 4th Birthday Party, Mr. Alberta Drummer Contest, AIDS Calgary Charity Auction & Fashion Show, "Still Lives & Misfits" the one act plays at the Pumphouse Theatre, IGRA Rodeo an AGRA Event at the Simon's Valley Ranch and Mr. Western Canada Drummer Contest, all events one could have enjoyed "En Femme" and we sure did!

The ISCWR Ball in Edmonton (Marsha's step down) will be the only event yet to happen as you read this.

If you add the above opportunities to enjoy our "En Femme" persona's to our full slate of "Illusions" events one could be extremely busy! Not bad for good old "Red Neck" Alberta!!!!

Through "Illusions" involvement, coupled with Barbie's and my personal commitment to our "Community" we are expanding the acceptability of "Cross-Genderists" in town. We are

trying very hard to get acceptance of us as another viable and integral part of Calgary's community. People are starting to understand that for some of us this "Lifestyle" is not just a "Fetish" to be indulged in behind locked doors but an important part of our personal make up. Whether you enjoy our "Lifestyle" part-time, or you are pursuing a life of full-time involvement as a "Female", isn't it reassuring to know that we have some freedom left to enjoy our own personal "Life Choices".

For us to continue to have any freedoms we have to become more involved in the happenings of "Life". You don't have to be front line "Activists", just make good "Life" decisions and consider those decisions ramifications. When you hear someone make untrue or bigoted statements, **Challenge** them with an **Educated** statement! Small steps that may help change peoples perceptions of what we are. People "Fear" what they don't

understand and "Groups" feed that "Fear". Any steps to "Educating" or "Enlightening" people dampens that mis-use of "Power". Our "politicians" for the most part are yielding to the "Right Wing" by their inaction! Alberta is one of the last provinces without "Human Rights Protection". Remember "**YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE AN ACTIVIST...JUST BE ACTIVE**"!



THRONE SPEECH Musings by Empress Lisa

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You and I are very fortunate people. Not only are we blessed in being crossdressers, we can crossdress "Blessed?" you may say, "I'm more cursed in being a crossdresser!" and I used to believe that myself, I would go through cycles of buying women's clothes and then throwing them out. I felt I was betraying my manhood and jeopardise my relationships. But there was an inner happiness I had in dressing and when I thought about it, this wasn't a clothing fetish but an expression of what I felt inside. I learned that it's not practical or a desire to be a full-time woman and that it would be foolish to repress my feminine feelings too. Taking in the best of both worlds is what makes me happy, and that's how I'll continue. I like being the man and the woman, I can experience what most others never achieve. Now that's what I call being 'blessed'!

Like the Kermit the Frog song, *It Isn't Easy Being Green*, I could, in sense call mine, *It Isn't Easy Being a Queen*. Living a two-way lifestyle has it's complications, personal commitments from one get in the way of another, that being Lisa who usually loses out. Lisa too, needs money to dress and when I am, I can't go everywhere I wish I could. Thankfully there is Illusions, a place where I can be a woman and my friends can too. This leads me to the second point of my opening statement, we have a place to crossdress. Illusions is now 4 years old, and it has helped our over 200 members come to terms with their inner self. Twice a month we get together to socialize, we have a magazine of expression and advice plus a home base.

Don't take Illusions for granted ladies, this club is unique. Few others exist in Canada, and most of them don't have a meeting place. Without intending to put in a promotional plug for Barbie and Christine, they created this club as a labour of love, and have worked long hours to get it where it is today. Illusions was only an idea on paper four years ago. Further support came from Illusions girls who helped build the club space, decorate, write articles for the magazine, bake goodies, bring in coffee and magazines and of course attending meetings. Don't let the day to day running and growth of our club rest in the hands of a few people, we all have something to contribute. Wouldn't it be awful if one day we were to say what Illusions was like, rather than how great Illusions is.

My thanks to you for your support in electing me as your Empress. As I said on the night of my crowning, I want to continue the Illusions spirit and make us grow stronger. To do this, our social committee will be sponsoring events through the coming year starting with the Stampede BBQ, and the Girls of Summer II party. Our primary goal is to have fun and learn more about our lifestyle, secondary we want to raise funds for a stage lighting system in the club and purchase new books for the library. At the Girls of Summer II party, we will start a wig raffle that will be drawn at the Christmas party.

As Empress, I will attend Illusions functions, reach out to our new members to make them feel welcome, and help fellow members. Outside of Illusions, I intend to make our presence felt in the communities that accept us. Already, Princess IV Diane and I have attended the Aids Calgary general meeting, to express our support. In the coming months we have functions like the Edmonton Coronation to attend, the ISCCA ball, and a September/October Illusions meet and great night in Red Deer, stay tuned to the next issue for exact date.

Our list of activities will be growing as our reign progresses through the year.

Please let Princess Diane or myself know of any concerns or suggestions you have. We'll see you at a meeting or you can get in contact with us through leaving correspondence at the club.

I look forward to a great year.

Lisa



The Girls Have Returned and this time we have bikinis (Perhaps not)

The Girls Of Summer II

Saturday, August 27 at the Boxxe Cafe and Bar

114 1509 Centre St SW An Evening Affair

Ticket Prices \$15 in advance \$19 at the door (subject to change)

Come party the summer away with your friends

See Lisa, Colleen, Diane, Karen, Freddelle or Terri for your tickets - Special reserve line 267-9378

cont'd from page 27

He's A Guy, She's A Guy femininity, even camp it up a bit. When they feel angry, this overdone girlishness can be very unattractive, for it turns into bitchiness supreme

3) Men who go out with drag queens get a special thrill out of fooling the world.

There's always something sexy and wild about knowing a secret that most people don't know. It's like playing a practical joke on society and not being caught.

"Nicki attracts a lot of stares, even from other women," Ralph says. "I especially like fooling the women. I can imagine them thinking that, if they were as pretty or as sexy as Nicki, they could get a lot more fun out of life."

4) Drag Queens are girls with something extra, and bisexual men like that something extra too.

Ralph admits that "Even though I know it's down there, even though I've felt it a hundred times," he says, "sometimes I am so turned on by the woman in my arms that I forget all about the maleness of my lover."

That surprise adds to the fun of the moment

5) Bisexual men who make love to drag queens can easily convince themselves that they aren't really having a gay relationship.

In a way, this is denial of their gay tendencies, but some men need the denial as much as they need the sex. In another way, as one of Ralph's friends put it, "I've got the best of both worlds. A girl and a guy right there in the same lover."

6) Drag queens know how to please a man sexually because, as secret men, they know what men like.

After spending so much time hearing so many good things about drag queens, I decided that my research would not be complete unless I got to know a few of them myself. Down deep, I still believed that Ralph and his friends had been exaggerating drag queens' sexiness. They couldn't be as exciting as real women, I thought, or as exciting as real men!



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At our 4th "Illusion's" Birthday we were very pleased to donate to "GAYLINES" Calgary a cheque for \$500.00 from our on

going "Charity Fund". "Gaylines" is a part of our community "Outreach" program and is just one of the many ways potential new members have to contact us

Receiving the cheque on behalf of "Gaylines" is B.B. Edwards. Stephen Locke (Collective Director) sent us a letter of Thanks on behalf of "Gaylines". The letter went on to say that our commitment to the community was to be commended. Thanks Girls!!

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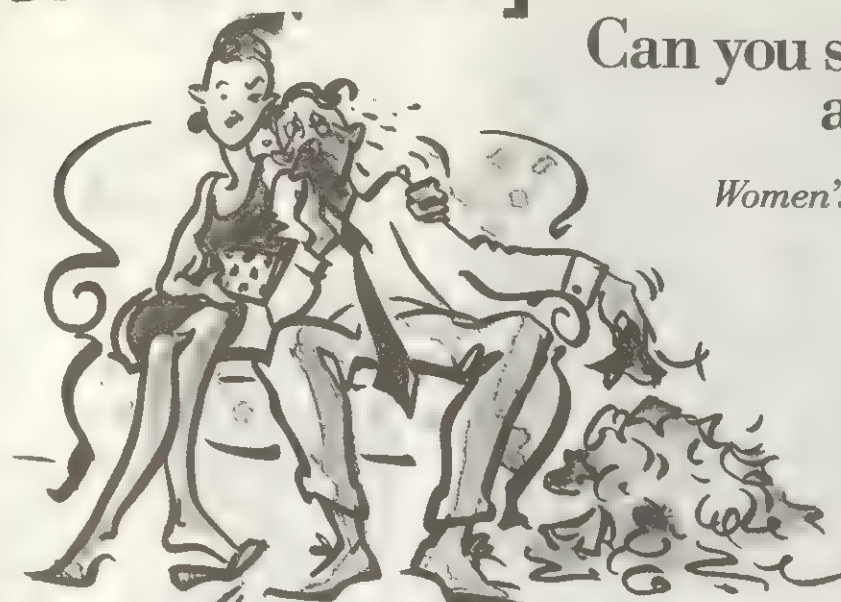
"I know what you mean. I'm a man of few words myself..."

[sexual ethics]

BY CINDY CHUPACK

Can you stand to see a grown man cry?

Women's double standard on tears



YOU KNOW HOW MEN are always saying that you don't need makeup, you look better without it? So one day, what the hell, you leave your lashes undefined, and every man in the office asks if you're feeling all right, you look so ... tired. Well, women have their own sucker line: We tell men it's okay to cry. We tell them they can do it anytime and we will be standing by with Kleenex and sympathy. Lots of men are still wary, but others are opening up those ducts—only to learn the hard way that women haven't exactly worked out the details.

Admittedly, almost all women find it a touching, even exciting moment of vulnerability the very first time a normally stoic man cries. But what about the next time, and the next? The truth is, many of us would agree with my friend Susan, who says, "I like a man who's not afraid to cry ... but doesn't." Ask yourself: If a man you were dating cried on a semiregular basis—say, he indulged in one good cry for every ten of yours—could you handle it?

My friend Gaby thought she could. She was dating a man whose sensitivity was the initial attraction: He expressed emotion, showed compassion, responded openly to her questions. When he shed a few tears in conversations about the way his life was going, she was flattered that he would reveal so much to her. Then one pivotal night he completely broke down. We're talking three hankies, convulsive shaking, that attractive state of trying to speak while gasping for air. Gaby abruptly ran out of

compassion: "On the outside I was supportive," she says, "but on the inside I was thinking, *Just pull it together.*" Soon after, she broke off the relationship.

The question, according to Los Angeles psychotherapist Toby Salter, is this: "You say you want a feeling man, but do you have the strength to deal with a feeling man?" Salter says there's a real gap between the level of sensitivity we say we want and the level we're able to handle: "Women are not quite the Olympian intimacy machines we pretend to be."

One problem is lack of experience; because we haven't seen men cry much in the past, their tears alarm and discomfit us. Has some tragedy occurred, we wonder, is he cracking up?

Here's where women who grew up with emotionally expressive fathers have a leg up on the rest of us. My friend Cathy says her father, a scientist, "was very matter-of-fact most of the time, but he'd get teary over certain things—a well-chosen Christmas present, a heartfelt card, a piece of poetry. Seeing him cry made me feel closer to him." And it helped prepare her for her husband's emotionalism after the arrival of their baby. "Bruce will get tears in his eyes when he's holding the baby and talking about all the little adventures they're going to have," she says. "I get teary-eyed just thinking about it."

I get teary-eyed just typing it. Which brings us to another factor that can affect your tolerance for tears: Are you a frequent crier yourself? My friend Kristy definitely falls into that category, and she

both tolerates and appreciates a man who cries occasionally too. "If a man absolutely never cries, that's a red flag to me," she says. "I wonder, 'Do you think it's inappropriate to cry?' Because if you do, you're going to hate me."

Not all frequent criers are seeking same, however. My friend Rosie, who watches Hallmark Hall of Fame presentations just for the commercials ("A good cry every fifteen minutes!"), admits she feels uncomfortable when she sees a man crying. "Maybe I'm old-fashioned," she says.

Or maybe she has a double standard. If so, she's not alone. Gaby would never put a limit on the number of breakdowns I'm allowed, but she granted her boyfriend only a few tearful episodes before ditching him. Where women are concerned, we consider no crisis too small, no movie-of-the-week too hokey, to justify tears. And if we run out of reasons to cry, PMS gives us carte blanche.

The rules for men are much more complicated. While we may adore a man who tears up at weddings, breaks down at a friend's funeral or cries at the birth of his baby, we're likely to panic if he sobs over finances or troubles at work. The message to men is clear: You can cry out of feelings of happiness and sadness, but not out of fear, frustration or weakness. We know you feel those emotions, but would you mind repressing them?

Women have been given a similar dictum on anger. We feel angry, but we're taught that it's unattractive and unfeminine to express it. The end result is that women get sick because they're repressing anger and men get angry because they're repressing fear. This raises the question: Does equality between the sexes mean we have to be equally miserable?

The answer, of course, is no. But men and women do have to give each other more emotional leeway—to rant and rave when we're angry, to cry when we're feeling vulnerable. If we really want men to share their most intimate hopes and dreams and fears, we'd better be willing to share the Kleenex.

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THE CROSS-GENDER QUESTIONNAIRE (contd)

- () () 37. Wearing beautiful clothes and makeup often brings me greater sexual pleasure than other sexual activities.
- () () 38. Often I become sexually excited just thinking about being a woman.
- () () 39. I have taken female hormones regularly for six months or longer.
- () () 40. As a man, I am exclusively attracted to women.
- () () 41. I almost always wear one or more items of feminine apparel under my male clothes.
- () () 42. I often become sexually excited when I shop for women clothing, shoes, or makeup.
- () () 43. I have taken female hormones regularly for one year or longer.
- () () 44. As a man, I am attracted to both women and men (not necessarily equally).
- () () 45. I daydream or think about being a woman at least once a day.
- () () 46. Often I become sexually excited when I read about men who become women.
- () () 47. I have discussed with a physician possible (or actual) cosmetic surgery to improve my feminine appearance.
- () () 48. In the feminine role, I am exclusively attracted to females.
- () () 49. I daydream or think about being a woman at least 10 times each day.
- () () 50. Being in the feminine role is a super-pleasure for me.
- () () 51. I have received a small amount (or more) of cosmetic surgery to improve my feminine appearance.
- () () 52. When in the feminine role, I am attracted to both men and women (Not necessarily equally).
- () () 53. After several hours (or days) in the feminine role I'm usually ready to change back into mens' clothes.
- () () 54. Being in the feminine role often produces strong feelings of exhilaration.
- () () 55. On one (or more) occasions, while in the feminine role I have had a sexual encounter with a man.

cont'd next page

Worker shocked by friend's sex

Dear Ann Landers: A rather attractive woman, about 6 feet 1 inch tall, with a distinctive, but husky, voice, started working in our firm three months ago. "Billie" made friends with everyone instantly and is extremely competent at her job.

A few days ago, Billie told me "she" is really a "he" and she plans to take several days off to have a sex-change operation. I was stunned. I asked if she was going to tell her boss and others in the office, and she said, "Yes, in time." She then asked me if I cared to go to the ladies' room and continue the conversation.

Here I was, going to the ladies' room with a "man," which made me quite uncomfortable. Is Billie a transvestite? Should she (or he) be using the ladies' room? Please set me straight.

— Confused in D.C.

ADVICE

Ann Landers

Syndicated columnist

Dear D.C.: A transvestite is a male who enjoys dressing like a woman. A transsexual is a person who feels that he (or she) is trapped in the body of a person of the opposite sex. Transsexuals sometimes opt for sex-change operations.

The Washington State Supreme Court decided recently that a business establishment has the right to fire a male employee who shows up for work in women's clothes and that he may not use a bathroom that is not "anatomically correct."



• **SHE'S A HE:** A 26-year-old man was sentenced to two years probation in Colorado Springs, Colo. for enrolling in high school as a girl. The man, Cheyen Weatherly, was such a good impersonator, he had become a member of the school's cheerleading squad before it was discovered he was a guy.

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#286 Susan
#287 Jasmine
#288 Jennifer

#289 Michelle
Loves makeup, heels, and would like to learn more about femininity. Interested in friendship with others of similar interests. All correspondence will be answered.

#290 Gloria
#291 Lorea

#292 Leslie
Recent convert to Cross Dressing. Want to meet same for outings. Goal is to pass on the street, needs to learn the Art of Makeup.

#293 Collesse
#294 Coreen
#295 Jacqui
#296 Racquel
#297 Victoria Catherine
#298 Dana
#299 Terry
#300 Tammie

#301 Yvonne
Married novice CD, who loves Femme side. 5'9", very slim. Enjoy heels, slim fitting clothes, particularly skirts and suits. Anxious to learn more about make-up, voice, mannerisms.

#302 Melissa
#303 Deana

#304 Raquel
New girl on the Block looking for friend to help in all aspects of femininity, can you help me? Love sexy outfits and looks.

#305 Debra
#306 Mandy
#307 Melissa
#308 Amanda Michelle
#309 Cindy
#310 Beverly
#311 Theresa
#312 Janet
#313 Betty
#314 Catherine

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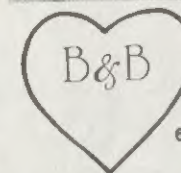
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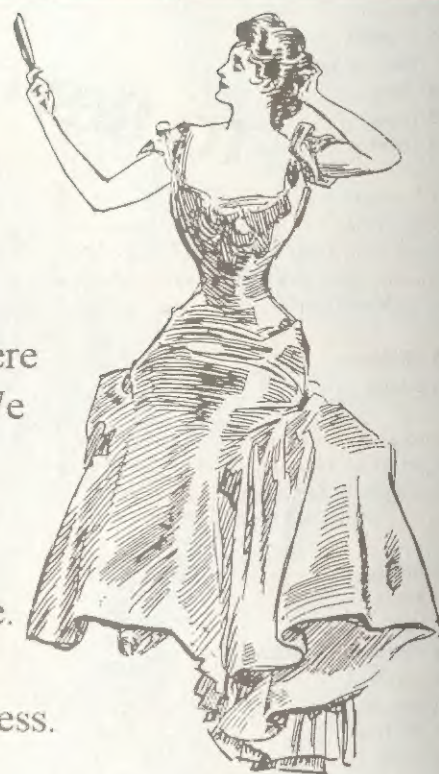
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